



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

2000 MAIN STREET

CALIFORNIA 92648

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

(714) 536-5486

## CHILDREN'S NEEDS TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 25, 2016 4:00 PM  
Huntington Beach Civic Center  
Lower Level Room B-8  
2000 Main Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

### A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm at which time a quorum was met.

**Members Present:** Erika Augenstein, Dona Cardona, Linda Cornejo, Dawit Habteab, Phyllis Lembke, Tiffany Johnson, Daryn Nguyen

**Members Absent:** Jim Hayden

**Council Liaisons Present:** None

**Staff Present:** Charlene Gomez

### B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

### C. PRESENTATIONS & INTRODUCTIONS

Cardona asked if the guests in attendance would like to introduce themselves. Deborah Reisdorph introduced herself as a local business woman and ~~President~~ Executive Director of BARE - Bully Awareness Resistance Education. She has submitted an application for membership on the CNTF and is awaiting approval.

### D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion:** Moved by Cornejo, seconded by Nguyen to approve the June 23, 2016 meeting minutes.

**Ayes:** Cardona, Cornejo, Johnson, Nguyen

**Abstain:** Lembke, Augenstein, Habteab

## **E. ADMINISTRATIVE**

1. Elections of Chair and Vice Chair: Gomez reported that no nominations were received and that nominations will be taken from the floor. Lembke stated that she has spoken with Hayden, and if there are no objections, she would like to run for Chair and nominate Hayden as Vice Chair. She informed the Board that she has been on the Task Force since its inception, and with this being her last year, she feels it's time to take on the role of Chair.

**Motion:** Lembke moved to elect herself as Chair. With no further nominations submitted from the floor, Johnson called for a second to the motion. Augenstein seconded. All in favor.

**Ayes:** Augenstein, Cardona, Cornejo, Habteab, Johnson, Lembke, Nguyen

**Absent:** Hayden

**Motion:** Lembke moved to election Hayed as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Augenstein. All in favor.

**Ayes:** Augenstein, Cardona, Cornejo, Habteab, Johnson, Lembke, Nguyen

**Absent:** Hayden

## **FOCUS GROUP UPDATES**

1. Creation of Focus Groups: The following Focus Groups were established to meet the needs of the community for 2016/2017 term year:

### **#1: CHILDREN RECOGNIZED & VALUED:**

Lembke feels it's important to continue with the Children Recognized & Valued Focus Group. There was discussion of the value of the Youth Character Awards and the honorees participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. The group will consist of Augenstein, Nguyen, with Lembke as lead.

**Motion:** Lembke moved to continue the Children Recognized & Valued focus group for the 2016/17 fiscal year. Cornejo seconded the motion. All in favor

**Ayes:** Augenstein, Cardona, Cornejo, Habteab, Johnson, Lembke, Nguyen

**Absent:** Hayden

### **#2: CHILD WELFARE:**

Johnson gave a brief overview of last year's focus group stating that Hayden was the lead. Discussion regarding the focus group ensued. Cardona voiced her concern of no report from this group last year and is unsure of Hayden's goals and objectives for the group and is questioning whether it is viable or not. Lembke reported that she and Hayden met with some organizations, including National Alliance for Mental Illness and with Westminster PD to discuss what they have in place for youth who are homeless and/or have mental health issues. Discussion continued on

what the group has done in the past and possible issues to take on in the future. With Haden absence, Lembke said she will lead this group, with Johnson, Habteab, Nguyen, Cornejo will assist.

**Motion:** Habteab moved to continue the Child Welfare 2016/17 term year. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor

**Ayes:** Augenstein, Cardona, Cornejo, Habteab, Johnson, Lembke, Nguyen

**Absent:** Hayden

**#3: BARNES & NOBLE HOLIDAY BOOK DRIVE:**

Johnson recapped the Book Drive and moved to continue the Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive. Discussion continued on how organizations are informed, including City website, HBTv-3, Public Information Office's social media reports, and direct mail/email to schools and other youth oriented organizations. Johnson will lead with Habteab, Augenstein, Nguyen, and Cornejo to assist.

**Motion:** Johnson moved to continue the Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive focus group for the 2016/17 fiscal year. Lembke seconded the motion. All in favor

**Ayes:** Augenstein, Cardona, Cornejo, Habteab, Johnson, Lembke, Nguyen

**Absent:** Hayden

**#4: SPECIAL EVENTS / MARKETING:**

Cornejo gave an overview of marketing and special events. She said that the focus group is primarily used to get the word out about the Task Force and the kid's needs. She attended a City Council meeting and a Kwanis meeting on behalf of the CNTF. Discussion continued on the goals and objectives of this group. There was a suggestion to start a Facebook page for promoting the Task Force and their events. Discussion moved to the topic of fundraising, for example for the Youth Character Awards. The Community Services Department has paid for the wall plaque at the Wall of Fame in Bella Terra the last two years, however, prior to that, the Children Recognized group raised the needed funds for the purchase. There was discussion that this group could take on fundraising through special events efforts should be the responsibility of this group or the Children Recognized group. Cornejo will lead with Augenstein and Nguyen as members of the group.

Lembke asked Gomez about submitting articles to Independent as they did in the past. Gomez asked about any fees and was told that there is no cost for it. Therefore, the group will look at this and other areas as another potential marketing tool.

**Motion:** Johnson moved to revise the name of the focus group and establish the Marketing and Fundraising Focus Group. Lembke seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Ayes:** Augenstein, Cardona, Cornejo, Habteab, Johnson, Lembke, Nguyen

**Absent:** Hayden

Lembke mentioned that the Focus Groups are scheduled to meet on the off months of regular meetings and this effort has diminished in this past year. She would like to see the focus groups get back on this schedule so that they are productive. Discussion ensued on past meeting times and locations and a question was asked of Gomez regarding Brown Act requirements for an Adhoc committee. Gomez will check on the requirements and report back at the next meeting.

**#5: CHARACTER EDUCATION PROGRAMS:**

Cardona requested the creation of a new focus group. She stated that in playing off of the Youth Character Awards, there is much more in character education that can be addressed. She has researched the Character Counts program and found there to be a number of solid programs regarding youth character that would tie into the Youth Character Awards, which are under the purview of the Children Recognized group. She discussed her idea for a plan and how it can be implemented into schools, and the research she has already completed and the amount yet to do. Cardona would like to call the group the Character Education Programs. She has started researching schools, their mission statements and goals to find viable schools for the program, but feels it will take at least the first year to develop the plan and identify funding. She anticipates rolling it out next year. Cardona reported on a few of the schools she has already research, saying that funding will be needed and with her experience with grant-writing, it may be an avenue to pursue. She went on to say that there is a lot of ground work to be done prior to the program being rolled out. The Character Counts program includes such tools for the schools in character education, bullying, assembly ideas for the kids, and program inclusion into the school's curriculum. At this time, Cardona doesn't know where she needs help, but will reach out to the Task Force when the time comes. Augenstein said that she is interested in serving on this focus group.

**Motion:** Cardona moved to establish the Character Education Program and Lembke seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Ayes:** Augenstein, Cardona, Cornejo, Habteab, Johnson, Lembke, Nguyen

**Absent:** Hayden

**F. CURRENT BUSINESS:**

None

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Gomez reported that there are currently five (5) openings on the Task Force including four adult members and one opening that is available to an adult or a student representative. There have been five adult applications received. The applications have been reviewed by Council Liaisons O'Connell and Delgleize who have submitted their recommendations to City Council for approval at the September 19, 2016 meeting.

**H. TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Lembke is appreciative of the participation of Council Liaisons Delgleize and O'Connell. Council Liaison Delgleize has been very engaged and committed to the Task Force. In the past, Council liaison participation has been limited, and therefore, Lembke wants to thank Council Liaison Delgleize for her participation and dedication to the group.

Johnson reported that Aurora Johnson, a student member on the Task Force a few years ago, gave a great speech at the Huntington High School graduation.

Lembke thanked Johnson for her service as Chair over the past year.

Johnson asked that members look for an email from their focus groups should any decide to meet in September.

**I. ITEMS TO BE AGENDIZED**

Focus Group reports  
Barnes and Noble Book Drive

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016, 4:00 PM at Civic Center, 2000 Main Street, Room B-8, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Charlene Gomez, Recording Secretary